Recd. Oct. 23rd

Paris 7ber 13th 1841.

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Dear Sir,

I avail myself of Mr Tuckerman's return to Boston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May last which I received through Mr Meister. I trust he was pleased with his short stay in this great capital. We will always give me great pleasure to see and be useful to any of your friends and I do not despair of hearing that one day or another you may yourself undertake a second voyage to Europe and that I shall have the gratification of making your personal acquaintance. The geological reports of the State of New York are exceedingly interesting and I am very much obliged to you for having sent them to me. I was once a good deal of a geologist, as proof of which I send with this a letter which I formerly drew upon the generalities of the Canarian geology & which I have since developped in our travels on those islands. But I am more a miles emeritus of that troupe and occupying my time solely in botany, and your botanical catalogue

MAR 4 1907

Given by A. M. VAIL. from the Drake Collection

in the reports of the part which most interests me. I hope you will carry out your promise & with the assistance of correspondents complete the local Flora of the States for useful as the might work you have undertaken with Dr Gray will be, and a noble monument of knowledge and research it certainly is, yet it cannot and ought not to supersede partial Floras so highly necessary for the appreciation of botanical geography, & perhaps the origin of species, if in such recondite matter we are ever allowed "rerum cognoscere causas".

Any plants named by yourself from the Northern States would be greatly appreciated by me. In regard to the collection of your Southern species which you desire to part with in order to purchase a microscope you may send them to me immediately & I will account to you for them, at the same time you will be pleased to tell me whether you wish that the microscope should exceed their value or not. you may choose from a simple microscope at 60 francs to a highly compound one at 600. Dr Asa Gray will be able to guide you as to the price you should go to, and I will follow your orders punctually with the assistance of persons here skilled in these matters. Should you be anxious to have the microscope immediately & will write to me by the packet I will forward it without delay.

Neither Dr Keyser nor Mr Tuckerman have given us time enough, your travellers hurry too much over the grand Tour.

Trusting soon to have the pleasure of hearing from you again, I remain ever, my dear Sir,

very sincerely yours

P. B. Webb.

Dr Torrey

New York.

I have changed my house since Dr Gray was in Paris, my present address is

15 Avenue de Marbeuf Champs Elysées

Paris.

By Steam Boat Mail

Dr Torrey

Professor of Botany

New York